

# THE COPPER ERA

AND MORENCI LEADER

The Oldest Copper Producing District in the State of Arizona.

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## DISTURBANCE RIFE IN OFFICIAL MORENCI

Constable is Arrested on Charges of Grand Larceny, Assault and Battery, and Highway Robbery—Former Two Cases Dismissed, While Latter Will be Carried to a Conclusion.

Jas. Cash, constable of the Morenci precinct, was arrested Friday, March 20, upon the charges of grand larceny and assault and battery, the complaint being filed by Attorney Quait of Clifton, he representing certain Mexicans who claimed that Cash had assaulted and robbed them on the night of Saturday, March 14. Later, on Thursday, March 26, Cash was again arrested, this time on the charge of highway robbery, the alleged offense being practically identical with that concerning the former two charges.

The story of Cash concerning the trouble is that he was called from his home at about two o'clock on the morning of Sunday, March 15, this call stating that a crowd of drunken Mexicans were engaged in disorderly conduct at a point near Newtown. Upon reaching the scene, which was near the slag dump of the Detroit Copper Company, he found five men quarreling among themselves, they having just finished fighting at the time of his arrival. The claims of the Mexicans are that they were not quarreling and that they had not been fighting. Cash arrested all the five men, and with the assistance of Gid Thompson, of Newtown, started with the Mexicans toward the Morenci jail, there to confine them the remainder of the night. At this juncture, according to Cash, the men resisted the officers, and to force them to come, Cash kicked one of the men. This conduct was the cause of the charge concerning assault and battery preferred by the injured Mexican against the officer. Two of the Mexicans escaped while on the way to the jail.

Cash and Thompson placed the remaining three in jail, this being after the officer had removed from the pockets of one of the Mexicans six hundred dollars in Mexican currency, and eighty dollars in American money. In this connection, about which the trouble hinges, Cash states that he intended to place the money in the hands of Judge Lally upon the Mexicans being brought before the court on the charge of misdemeanor.

On the following morning, Monday, the three Mexicans were brought before Judge Lally on the charge of misdemeanor. The court permitted their release, on bond, pending their final trial on the following Thursday, when they were acquitted.

On the early Sunday morning train Cash went to El Paso, taking with him his children who will remain there with relatives. Following, he was informed that his arrest on the two charges mentioned was being considered. He was later arrested by Deputy Sheriff Hoffman and brought before Judge Lally for trial on the two charges—grand larceny, and assault and battery. On the charge of battery, Cash demanded a change of venue. Because of the expenses incident to a transference of witnesses and other persons affected, to Metcalf or Duncan Judge Leonard, of Clifton, being at this time absent, Judge Lally, upon the request of the complaining Mexican, ordered that the charge be dismissed. The question concerning grand larceny was settled just before being brought to trial. On motion of the complainant the charge was ordered dismissed, the money in question at this time having been returned to the complainant by Cash, who states that he had been keeping it with the intention of delivering it to Justice Lally upon the Mexicans being brought up for trial.

It is a fact that immediately upon the return of Cash from El Paso he went to the office of the Justice of the Peace and inquired if the three Mexicans had been tried, and stated to Deputy Sheriff Hoffman, Keppeler Judge Lally and Horton that he had a pocket book containing Mexican and American money belonging to one of them.

**Again Arrested.**  
Cash was arrested on the morning of Thursday, March 26th, by Deputy Hoffman, upon a robbery complaint signed by the Mexican who was arrested by Cash, and who complained that Cash removed from him the money above mentioned. Upon being, for the second time brought before Judge Lally at ten o'clock on the morning of Thursday of this week, Cash asked for a continuance until four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, which request was granted. However, the case was again postponed because of the inability of State Attorney Horton to appear at Morenci on Thursday, he being engaged in a civil suit at Clifton. The case of Cash was placed for trial on the afternoon of Friday.

**Cash Held Blameless.**  
The examining trial of Cash, on the charge of highway robbery, was held on the afternoon of today, and resulted in the State's Attorney, E. V. Horton, instructing to Judge Lally that Cash be set free, as in the opinion of the attorney, after minutely examining witnesses for both the defense and prosecution, the case against Cash was completely without evidence that could possibly warrant a conviction.

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## NIGHT OFFICER HAS NARROW ESCAPE WITH GUN MAN

In Attempting to Arrest Band of Night Marauders Mexican Fires Bullet at Close Range But Quick Action of Officer Prevents Bodily Injury.

Night Marshal Tom McCullough had a narrow escape from serious bodily injury Wednesday night when he was called to arrest Juan Ramirez, Pedro Marcos and Federico Garcia, who were engaged in shooting up the neighborhood in the Mexican quarters on the east side.

Accompanied by Night Watchman Bills and Dickens the three officers proceeded to the spot where the shots had been fired and discovered the three Mexicans on the hill. Watchman Bills flashed his night lamp on the trio and as he did so Marshal McCullough discovered that Ramirez was holding a six shooter concealed under his leg. McCullough grasped the weapon in such a position that the Mexican could not raise his arm to fire and demanded that he give up the gun. For an answer the Mexican fired while McCullough still had hold of the gun, the bullet barely missing the officer's knee. By this time McCullough had his gun in action and the Mexican surrendered.

A search of the party disclosed that Marcos was also armed. The trio was landed in jail and the next day Police Judge Danenhauer sentenced Ramirez to pay a fine of \$50 and serve sixty days in jail. Marcos was fined \$50 and fifty days in jail and Garcia, who was unarmed received ten days in jail.

Hugh J. Forbes, Jr., left Wednesday morning for Cananea, Mexico, where he will enter the employ of the mercantile department of the Cananea Consolidated Copper Co.

## TAILINGS QUESTION AGAIN BROUGHT TO FRONT

Farmers of the Lower Gila Valley Through Their Tailings Inspector Discover That Tailings are Finding Their Way into Frisco from Mogollon District.

For the past sixty days the farmers of the lower Gila valley have been complaining that the mining companies of this district were guilty of a violation of the injunction of the court prohibiting the dumping of tailings into the San Francisco river. The mining companies were just as vigorous in their denials with the result that the tailings inspector who represents the farmers, made a thorough investigation. According to this report the tailings that have made their appearance in the river were traced to the mining and milling districts of the Mogollon mountains, fully seventy-five miles distant.

Since the commencement of warm weather it has been a noticeable fact that the river water has been a white milky color as it passed under the bridge at Clifton. Upon complaint of the farmers the companies here made a thorough investigation and were positive, as was also the tailings inspector, that no tailings found their way into the river at this point. Continuing his investigations further the inspector proceeded up the river to its headwaters in the Mogollon mountains and there he found that the tailings from the reduction mills in that section during the winter months had been dumped into canyons leading into the Frisco and with the coming of the spring thaws, the tailings were being radically washed into tributaries forming the headwaters of the river.

A committee of farmers waited on the managers of the mining companies in that section and entered a protest but it is reported that the managers showed no disposition to change their dumping arrangements. If the practice persists it is certain that a suit will be entered in the courts of New Mexico to restrain the mining companies in that section from dumping tailings which eventually will find their way into the San Francisco river. As this case has already been decided by the Supreme court of the United States the farmers of the lower Gila valley feel sure of their ground.

## Wedding Bells—

Chas. J. Brooke and Miss Anna Young were united in marriage Sunday morning at six o'clock at the residence of the bride's mother, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Curry H. Love. The couple boarded the morning train for San Simon valley, where a brief honeymoon was spent.

## Ex-Sheriff Here—

I. B. English, ex-sheriff of Greenlee county, but who has been making his headquarters in Phoenix, where he has been engaged in the Life Insurance business, arrived in Clifton Saturday evening for a visit and has been shaking hands with old friends during the past week.

## TOWN PRIMARIES IS CAUSING STIR BY CANDIDATES

Tuesday is the Last Day for Filing Nomination Petitions and Primary Election Will Be Held on April 20. About Twenty Five Per Cent of Registered Vote Are Women.

With the final date for filing nominating petitions rapidly approaching, interest in the approaching town primaries is increasing. On Friday Town Clerk Danenhauer reported a registration of six hundred. Of this number one hundred and nineteen are women voters and it is predicted that before the close of registration which will be on April 10, ten days before the primary election, that no less than two hundred of the fair sex will avail themselves of the opportunity to cast a ballot for the first time.

Nominating petitions will be received by the Town Clerk for the last time on Tuesday next, March 31st. As the Era goes to press the following petitions have been filed:

For Councilmen—C. W. Young and W. J. McDowell.

For Town Marshal—Tom McCullough.

For Street Superintendent—J. F. Hayes.

Other petitions have been put in circulation but will probably not be filed until Tuesday. These petitions according to report, include Jim Norte, J. W. Goolsby, Frank Springer, W. B. Hutchins, and Sam Abraham, for the Council; Chas. Brooks and Milton Morris for Town Marshal; Peter Riley and George Fraser for Mayor.

From present indications the contest for Mayor will be decided in the primaries between Fraser and Riley. It was reported that Dick Franz would make the race for Mayor on an independent citizen's ticket but this week Mr. Franz stated positively that he would not be a candidate. Who will be the candidate for Mayor on the democratic ticket will be decided at the primaries and the successful candidate will very likely have no opposition in the general election in May.

Mat Danenhauer, the present town clerk and police judge has announced his candidacy as an independent candidate and so far has had no opposition, it being generally recognized that Mr. Danenhauer has made a satisfactory town clerk.

## New Casa Grande—

J. E. Morrison, formerly United States Attorney, was in Clifton this week on legal business. Mr. Morrison has opened offices in Phoenix and will make the state capital his future home. Mr. Morrison is also interested in the development of the Casa Grande section and says that with the building of the San Carlos dam this immense valley will become a rival of the great Salt River valley. At Casa Grande a new townsite has been laid out adjoining the old Casa Grande townsite on the east and consists of 200 lots. Real estate values are booming in that section and the New Casa Grande lots are being snapped up.

## LAMAR COBB SHOWS THREE CENT FARE GENERAL MANAGER STATE ROAD WORK

Normal Carmichael, General Manager of the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., Accompanies State Engineer to Cochise County to View State Road Work in that Section.

Norman Carmichael, General Manager of the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., left Clifton on Monday morning last in company with State Engineer Lamar Cobb, on a visit to Cochise County. This week for the purpose of inspecting the state highway work which is in progress near Forest station connecting Bisbee with Douglas. While in Clifton last week State Engineer Cobb secured the co-operation of the Arizona Copper company in the construction of the first link of the East and West state highway via Smelter, a distance of three miles. For a portion of the distance the highway will parallel the A. & N. M. tracks and it is understood that the Arizona Copper Company, Ltd., will make the fills across the deep arroyos between here and Smelter free of charge to the state.

That the contract for the Clifton end of the state highway will be let in April is now assured and when completed, together with the completion of the Metcalf road and the extension of the Morenci road, the Clifton-Morenci district can boast of roadways the equal of any in the state. It is now the general belief that the state bond issue for good roads will be made this fall by an initiative measure. In this event the state highway will be extended to the Graham county line via Gillard Hot Springs. It is understood that State Engineer Cobb favors this route provided sufficient funds are made available by the state bond issue for its early completion.

## CLIFTON GIRL IS REPORTED MISSING

Sadie Wells Disappeared Enroute to Los Angeles.

TUCSON, March 20.—The parents of Sadie Wells of Clifton have applied to the officials of the Southern Pacific in Tucson to locate the young woman, who has been missing since March 8.

When last seen she was in a chair car on train No. 1, leaving Lordsburg, New Mexico, and carried a ticket to Los Angeles. She was in the company of a man and woman who appeared to be man and wife and who said they would look after the girl, as they, too, were going to the coast.

Sadie Wells is twenty-four years of age, is five feet four inches in height and walks with a slight stoop. She weighs about 130 lbs. has dark hair and eyes and when last seen was wearing a broad brimmed blue woolen hat, a gray coat and a light gray skirt.

No trace of her has been found since she was seen at Lordsburg on March 8, and her parents are commencing to fear that she has met with foul play. The local police have had no notification of the missing girl.

## MITT SIMMS OUT FOR STATE TREASURER

The democrats of Graham county have placed before the people for consideration at the primaries the name of Hon. Mitt S. Simms as their candidate for state treasurer.

The announcement made reads as follows:

"At a meeting of some of the leading citizens of Graham county it was unanimously decided that the Hon. Mitt S. Simms would be Graham county's candidate for the office of state treasurer, subject to the actions of the democratic party at the coming primary election.

"I presume that there will be no embarrassment in announcing this action on the part of the people of Graham and the record of Mr. Simms is too well known to require a review of his record at this time.

"The people of Graham are solidly behind the candidacy of Mr. Simms and we are led to believe from reports received that his supporters are just as numerous and enthusiastic in Greenlee and Gila as they are in Graham. (Signed) BEN R. CLARK, "For the Committee and Mr. Simms."

## Goes to San Antonio—

L. J. Hobbs, better known as "Lee" Hobbs, who has been confined to the A. C. hospital for several weeks, was taken to San Antonio on Thursday morning. This move was made imperative on account of the poor health of Mr. Hobbs who is suffering from tuberculosis. He was accompanied by John Shaw, of the Eagles lodge of this city. Many friends in Greenlee county will hope for word of his recovery in his new location.

## THREE CENT FARE LAW DECLARED TO BE INVALID

But Matter Will Again Come Up Before the Arizona Corporation Commission for Hearing on April 1st.

The federal court in San Francisco has handed down a decision enjoining the operation of the three-cent fare law in Arizona. Their opinion and decision is based upon the opinion of the supreme court of the state of Arizona in the Tucson Gas and Electric company case, wherein the supreme court of the state of Arizona held that the sole power to fix rates for public service corporations, under the constitution, lay with the corporation commission, of the state of Arizona and that the legislature did not have concurrent power to establish such rates.

The federal court holds that it is bound by the decision of the supreme court of the state of Arizona on the construction of a statute in relation to the constitution of the state of Arizona, and following the decision of the supreme court of the state of Arizona, declared the law to be invalid.

Attorney General Bullard has, however, applied to the corporation commission for an order fixing three cents as a reasonable passenger rate for the transportation of passengers in the state of Arizona over the various lines of the railroads in the state. A hearing on these cases is set for April 21. The corporation commission, however, has demanded of the railroads to furnish them a large amount of data in relation to the expense of the transportation of passengers in the state. If this data is furnished by the railroads by April 21, the cases will be heard by the corporation commission at that time; if not, the cases may be continued for a short time further in order that full data may be furnished the corporation commission.

## METCALF STATE BANK FINDS NEW LICENSE LAW

State Auditor Callaghan Refers Bank to Requirement of 1901 Statute Which Calls for Auditor's License as Well as Charter from Corporation Commission.

The officials of the State Bank of Morenci were dumfounded on Thursday of this week when they received a telegram from the State Auditor's office at Phoenix demanding to know by what authority they were doing business and citing the officials to a provision in the 1901 statutes requiring a license from the Auditor's office for a State Bank and the penalty attached for failure to obtain same. The penalty is a small matter of \$100 per day for each day the bank operates without a license from the Auditor.

The State Bank of Metcalf was organized last August and after filing its Articles of Incorporation with the State Corporation Commission was authorized to do business. Under the authority of this Charter the bank opened its doors for business on October 23rd under the impression that the bank had complied with all the requirements necessary. This impression was dissipated upon the receipt Thursday of a telegram from Auditor Callaghan calling the attention of the directors to the penalty clause of the 1901 statute for failure to pay a five dollar license to the State Auditor.

Telegrams were exchanged with the Auditor's office explaining the situation; that the payment of the five dollar license fee had been simply an oversight. Friday morning Auditor Callaghan stated that a license was being mailed and the State Bank of Metcalf is doing business at the old stand as usual.

## SUBSTANTIAL RAISE IN ASSESSED VALUE

Tax Commissioner Howe Says Property Increase is Heavy This Year—Mostly Found in New Plants of Big Copper Companies All Over the State.

In speaking of the taxable wealth of the entire state for the coming year, Commissioner Howe, of the state tax commission, in an exclusive interview with an international reporter at Douglas, stated that while the assessed valuation of the state for the year 1913 amounted to \$385,000,000, it would be exceeded by about \$15,000,000 during the present year, thereby bringing the assessed value of all property in the state up to the \$400,000,000 mark.

The increase, according to Commissioner Howe, will not be due to additional raises on the present taxable property, but is caused by the many new enterprises which have started since the last tax levy was made, in addition to numerous improvements made by the many mining, smelting and railroad companies operating in the state.

In speaking of the work of the tax commission and its various powers, Commissioner Howe continued:

"In addition to the supervision of the work of the assessors and county boards of equalization of the state, the tax commission now takes over the work formerly performed by the territorial board of equalization, and appraises and values the railroads, telephone and telegraph lines, express companies and private car lines."

"In this connection it is pertinent to note that the two great transcontinental lines operating in the state were formerly assessed at \$15,000 per mile where as now they pay taxes on an assessed valuation of \$61,000 per mile. Heretofore the private car lines have escaped taxation on the ground that they did an interstate business only. The tax commission found that the states of Wisconsin, Kansas and Minnesota were collecting taxes from the private car lines, and drew up a bill, modeled after the laws of the foregoing mentioned states, that was subsequently passed by the legislature and is now a law upon the statute books of this state.

"This amount alone added more than a million dollars to the assessed value of the state and caused these companies to pay taxes that they should have rightfully paid for many years."

"The express companies now pay a tax of 6 per cent, where they formerly paid a mere pittance of 1 per cent, and this is believed to be commensurate with the taxes paid on other classes of property throughout the state."

## Auto Competition—

That competition is the life of trade is being exemplified in the auto delivery between Clifton and Morenci. With the completion of the new road between the two mining towns four stage auto lines have made their appearance and the road is literally kept hot by the buzz wagons.

## JURY TRIALS COME TO AN END THIS WEEK

P. Lascrain Secures Verdict Against The Shannon Copper Company For \$1,000.00—Becker-Franz Company vs. J. W. Bennie is Tried and Taken Under Adversement—Criminal Cases Completed.

The trial jury panel, which was ordered to report for duty last Monday in the superior court, concluded the trial cases on Thursday and was discharged for the term. No more jury cases will be heard until June.

**Damages Case.**  
On Monday morning the case of P. Lascrain vs. Shannon Copper Company, a suit for damages on an alleged breach of contract, was begun. Lascrain brought suit for \$25,000.00. The plaintiff alleged that as a result of an accident at the Shannon mines he lost an eye and in a previous settlement of his case, in addition to a monetary settlement, he was promised a life job with the defendant company. Later he alleged he was discharged and for breach of contract asked for damages. The jury was empaneled on Monday and after hearing the evidence brought in a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$1,000.00. The defendant company announced that the judgment would be paid and no appeal taken. Armstrong & Lewis and Attorney Morgan represented the Shannon company and the plaintiff was represented by Attorneys Kearney and Worsley.

**To Quiet Title.**  
A civil suit which has been in the court for a long time was tried on Wednesday, entitled Becker-Franz Company vs. J. W. Bennie, a suit to quiet title to the Weaver group of mining claims in this district. After hearing the evidence leave to file briefs was granted to both sides. This case was tried before and was decided in favor of the Becker-Franz company, but on appeal to the Supreme Court the case was remanded for new trial. L. Kearney and Joe Morris represented the plaintiff and E. L. Lewis, of Phoenix, appeared for the defendant.

**Case Dismissed.**  
The charge against Bronson McMahon for cattle stealing, which has been pending for several weeks, was on Thursday dismissed by the Court on the motion of the District Attorney for the reason there was insufficient evidence to warrant a conviction. McMahon has been out on bond since the information was lodged against him.

**Verdict of Not Guilty.**  
The trial of Robert Phillips, charged with grand larceny, for the alleged theft of eleven burros, was held on Thursday. Phillips was alleged to have gathered in the burros at the mouth of Saddle Creek above Clifton and driven them to Alma, N. M. After being out a short time the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

**Deadly Weapon Charge.**  
George Wright, a young man barely eighteen years of age, was before Judge Laine, on Thursday in the Juvenile Court on a charge of carrying concealed weapons in the shape of a brass knuck. Wright had been held in custody as a witness in the Phillips case. When he was apprehended by the officers and searched the pair of brass knucks was discovered. Wright claimed that he found the knucks and taking all the facts of the case into consideration Judge Laine strongly reprimanded the young man and ordered that the case be dismissed against him.

**Marriage Licenses** were issued this week to Chas. J. Brooke to wed Anna C. Young, and Frank Coon to wed Clara Phillips.

**SURPRISE ON JAMES S. CROMB.**  
A jolly crowd of Eastern Stars surprised James S. Cromb on his birthday anniversary last Wednesday evening. It was such a complete surprise that for awhile Mr. Cromb was unable to understand just what was really happening. After the crowd had been seated in Mr. Cromb's spacious parlor, Mr. Carlton made a short speech presenting Mr. Cromb with a beautiful gold headed cane from the members of Century Chapter No. 10, O. E. S., for his faithful performance of the many arduous duties which have fallen to his lot. He has served the lodge as Secretary for about 10 years, and also is a Past Worthy Patron besides being the only Mason and Eastern Star in this jurisdiction to have held the highest office in the state, that of Grand Master of Arizona in 1904.

Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. George Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Pascoe, Mr. and Mrs. Slidebotham, Mr. and Mrs. Dillner, Mr. and Mrs. William Pollock, Mr. and Mrs. John Widener, Mr. and Mrs. William T. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McWilliams, Mr. and Mrs. H. Matthews, Mr. and Mrs. MacLeary, Mrs. Carlton, Mr. R. C. Maley, Mrs. Nesbit, Miss Wood, Mrs. Charles Spann, Mr. and Mrs. Whitacre, Mr. and Mrs. Backstein, Master Douglas Pascoe, Mr. and Mrs. James Cromb and Miss Christina Cromb.

After delicious refreshments were served the guests departed for home after singing "Auld Lang Syne," and "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and again wishing Mr. Cromb many more happy birthdays.